

What Happened to the Old Man?

Fuel Before the Flame

Introduction

Thankfulness

Heartbeat of Romans 1-5: **Righteousness**

The Gospel Reveals God's Righteousness: "For in it [the Gospel] the **righteousness** of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The **righteous** shall live by faith." (Romans 1:17)

Greeks Don't Have It: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and **unrighteousness** of men, who by their **unrighteousness** suppress the truth." (Romans 1:18)

Jews Don't Have It: "What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written: 'None is **righteous**, no, not one.'" (Romans 3:9-11)

In fact, No One Has It: "For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin." (Romans 3:20)

But now: "But now the **righteousness** of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it -- the **righteousness** of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe." (Romans 3:21)

Jews Natural Question, What about Abraham? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as **righteousness**." (Romans 4:3)

Who did Jesus Die For? "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a **righteous** person -- though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die -- but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:6-8)

In Adam, in Christ: "Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of **righteousness** leads to justification and life for all men." (Romans 5:18)

Now we're asking the question, if it's by faith, grace, Christ alone, can't we just continue on sinning and receive more grace? By no means! New relationship to God means new relationship to sin.

Romans 6:5-7: The Old Man's Reign Ended at the Cross

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (Romans 6:5)

IF, we must start here.

"For if you haven't been united with him in a death like his, you shall certainly not be united with him in a resurrection like this."

United [*Sumphutoi*] - KJV translates as planted together or become the same plant in His death and become the same plant in His resurrection.

Verse 6 Has Some Incredible Positional Realities

6 We know that our old self [OLD MAN] was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. **7** For one who has died has been set free from sin.” (Romans 6:6-7)

The fact - Your old man was crucified with Christ. Who is the old man? Again, not something you try to do, “crucify the old man.” Done. It is nothing less than your old relationship in Adam. Your Adam position is ended, crucified, killed, done, forever. You will never be in Adam and under sin and death again.

The purpose - Sin’s power was ended over your body. What is the body of sin? It is your body under sin’s dominion! The body is sin’s instrument through which it works, including the brain/mind. We use our tongue to sin, our eyes to sin, our hands to sin, our feet to sin, our thoughts (esp.) to sin. So our body has been ruled by sin in the inner man. Through our union with Christ sin no longer has authority over our bodies. Sin’s power has been broken, sin’s rule is smashed. You don’t have to sin now. Why you can’t continue in sin! Eventually, of course, your body will be totally renovated, renewed sinless. We are looking forward to the redemption of our bodies. Sin is still in our bodies.

*The Old Man’s Manor Illustration

Legalism - Everything should look the same

License - Everything is just fine as it is

We should be open to feedback, flexible, understanding

The result - You are now no longer Sin’s slave. This is a fact. Because we are in Christ and Christ died to sin and now lives to God. Praise God, we can’t possibly continue in sin, we are in Christ. This is positional (union/identity) truth, not action. It can only be received by faith. It has to do with your old relationship in Adam, your position in him is crucified, killed, and done forever.

*St. Augustine story, “Ah, but it is not I.”

Vs. 7 - Freedom in death. It seems counterintuitive to say that one who has died has been set free from sin. However, if you understand sin and you understand death, it’s possible to true living to take place.

*Examples of Freedom (life) in Death

- When soldiers give their lives, we experience freedom
- Fathers with an iPhone or iPad nearby
- When you say no to former relationships, you experience freedom of intimacy
- Husbands coming home from work and die to rest, life in the home
- When we build a fence, we give children freedom to enjoy

Romans 6:8-10: Union with Christ Makes You Alive to God

8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. **9** We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. **10** For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. (Romans 6:8-10)

There’s that IF again. This is an open invitation but a narrow path.

1. Christ died once for sins (v. 9)

“**18** Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.” (Hebrews 10:18)

- a. Christ was raised
- b. Christ never needs to die again (no longer any offering for sin)
- c. Vs. 8, Remember we have died with him (positionally before God)

2. Christ now lives eternally to God (v. 10)

20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, **21** far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.” (Ephesians 1:20-21)

Through Christ, we're now made alive to God.

Vs. 8

Romans 6:11: Bring Back the Old Vocabulary: Reckon

11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:11)

“He Loves Me He Loves Me Not” - The word consider brings to mind considering several options. This is not the word, reckon means to take into exact account. What are we to reckon?

Consider [logizomai] - This word deals with reality (objective truth). If I reckon (logizomai) that my bank book has \$25 in it, it has \$25 in it. Otherwise I am deceiving myself. This word refers more to fact than supposition or opinion.

Reckon, count on the Truth that you are dead to sin and alive to God.

Band of Brothers Illustration

“You hid in that ditch because you think there's still hope. The only hope you have is to accept the fact that you're already dead. The sooner you accept that, the sooner you'll be able to function as a soldier is supposed to function.” (Captain Spiers, Band of Brothers)

Why did I run to?

- **Slander?** I believe I still have to defend the Old Man's reputation
- **Pleasure?** I still believe that the Old Man knows what will satisfy me the most
- **Defend Myself?** I still believe the record of the old man counts for something
- **Find Significance in How Others View Me?** I still believe the Old Man must be loved by someone other than God.

Big Idea: Fuel Before the Flame

Romans 6 (Imperative) Comes Before Romans 7 (Indicative). 148 verses of Doctrine and Truth (Fuel) before the first command (Flame). Are these Gospel truths the fuel for your life?

Reckon Yourself Alive to God in Christ Jesus